

Richland County Public Safety Standing Committee

December 5, 2025

The Richland County Public Safety Standing Committee convened on Friday, December 5, 2025, in person and virtually at 8:30 AM in the County Boardroom of the Richland County Courthouse.

Call To Order: Committee Chair Frank called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM.

Roll Call: Deputy Clerk Hege conducted roll call. Committee member(s) present: Tiffany Thompson, Chad Cosgrove, Melvin “Bob” Frank, and Julie Fleming. Committee member(s) absent: Gary Manning, David Turk, and Kerry Severson.

Committee Chair Frank welcomed Supervisor Thompson as a newly appointment member of the Public Safety Standing Committee.

Verification of Open Meetings Law Compliance: Deputy Clerk Hege confirmed the meeting had been properly noticed.

Approval Of Agenda: Committee Chair Frank entertained a motion to approve the agenda. Motion by Cosgrove, second by Fleming. Motion carried and the agenda was approved.

Approval Of Minutes From November 7, 2025 Meeting: Committee Chair Frank asked if there were any changes or corrections to the minutes of the November 7, 2025 meeting. Hearing none, Committee Chair Frank declared the minutes of the November 7, 2025, meeting approved as presented.

Public Comment: None.

Reports:

- A. Sheriff – Departmental Activities & Monthly Bills:** Sheriff Porter briefly presented the Richland County Sheriff’s Department Monthly Bills spreadsheet, the Sheriff’s Monthly Report, and a Squad Mileage Report to the committee and reported that Deputy Cejpek was retiring after nearly 40 years of service to Richland County. Brief discussion ensued on Deputy Cejpek’s many years of excellent service. Sheriff Porter reported that one of the F150 trucks belonging to the Sheriff’s department was able to be repaired, but the other was not. Sheriff Porter reported that that bids had come back for three new squads and a 2026 Ram and a 2026 Durango would be ordered from Fillback Ford, but was still looking for a more cost-effective solution for the third squad. Bried questions from Supervisor Thompson on the definition of complaints on the Sheriff’s Monthly Report.
- B. Coroner - Departmental Activities:** Committee Chair Frank pointed out the report submitted by Richland County Coroner, James Rossing, was available in the packet for the committee to review. No discussion.
- C. Circuit Court Judge - Departmental Activities:** Register in Probate, Jenifer Laue, briefly reported on behalf of Judge McDougal that the Judge McDougal continues to be very busy while being also slightly under the weather. Ms. Laue provided a brief update on the Criminal Justice Coordinating Committee, reminded the committee that the next meeting of the Courthouse Security Committee would be on December 15, 2025, in the County Boardroom, reported that

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there would be follow up from the Justice on Wheels event in the future, and that Judge McDougal was preparing for 2026.

- D. Courthouse Security Report:** Brief discussion on signage around the courthouse and the need for dual language signage. Brief discussion on different metal detector styles that could potentially be used in the lobby. Register in Probate, Jenifer Laue reported on the tabletop active threat drills recently done by the court staff. No action was taken.
- E. Clerk Of Court - Departmental Activities:** Richland County Clerk of Court, Stacy Kleist, presented the Clerk of Court budget summary report and provided an overview of the activities and duties of the Clerk of Court Office. Brief discussion ensued.
- F. Register In Probate - Departmental Activities:** Register in Probate, Ms. Jenifer Laue presented the Register in Probate budget summary report and reported that the Register in Probate office was working on recouping Guardian ad Litem fees. Brief discussion ensued.
- G. District Attorney - Departmental Activities:** No one was present.
- H. Emergency Management - Departmental Activities:** John Heinen, Richland County Emergency Management Coordinator reported on his grant work and year end close outs. Brief discussion ensued.

Committee Chair Frank moved item 8. Discussion & Possible Action: Approval To Apply For And Accept An EPCRA State Computer And HazMat Response Equipment Grant up to follow item 7H.

Discussion & Possible Action: Approval To Apply For And Accept An EPCRA State Computer And HazMat Response Equipment Grant: Emergency Management Coordinator Heinen provided a brief explanation of the resolution. Motion by Cosgrove, second by Thompson to approve the resolution of approval to apply for and accept an EPCRA state computer and hazmat response equipment grant. Brief discussion ensued. Motion carried and the resolution of approval to apply for and accept an EPCRA state computer and hazmat response equipment grant was approved and moved on to county board for final approval.

- I. PSAP & NG-911 Grants:** Sheriff Porter reported that the PSAP grant dollars had been applied for and received. Committee Chair Frank commented that the NG-911/GIS grant was currently stalled. Brief discussion ensued.
- J. Radio Tower Project:** Sheriff Porter reported that the tentative switch over was set for January of 2026, networking between the towers should happen soon, and a plan for snow removal at the tower sites was in progress. Brief discussion ensued.

Correspondence: None.

Future Agenda Items: None.

Adjourn: Committee Chair Frank entertained a motion to adjourn to January 2, 2026. Motion by Fleming,

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second by Cosgrove to adjourn. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 9:28 AM.

Respectfully submitted by,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Myranda H. Hege".

Myranda H. Hege
Deputy County Clerk